Vacancies of S. E. Grade (C)

1717. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the year-wise vacancies in the grade of S. E. (C) commencing from the year 1977, till date ;

(b) whether it is a fact that D.P.Cs were held as provided in the rules every year, to fill up these vacancies on year-wise basis ;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that no D.P.Cs were held during the years 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 despite the fact that vacancies were available to be filled up on regular basis ;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether it is a fact that departmental SC/ST officers were deprived of their share in promotion due to non holding of regular D.P.Cs. and instead filling up of vacancies on an ad hoc basis ; and

(g) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Year-wise vacancy position in the Grade of SE(C) commencing from 1977 are as under :—

1977—5	1982—1	1987—Nil
1978—4	1983—Nil	1988—Nil
1979—3	1984—Nil	1989—Nil
1980—Nil	1985—1	1990—17
1981—2	1986—4	1991—12

(b) Regular DPCs were held as follows :—

(i) In April, 1987 against vacancies for 1972 to 1982.

(ii) In April, 1987 against vacancies for 1985 & 1986.

(iii) No DPC due for 1987, 1988 & 1989, since no vacancies occured during the years.

(c) DPCs could not be held every year, as the Recruitment Rules for the Gazetted posts of Civil Engineers promulgated in September, 1976 did not contain a provisions to regulate the services of Officers recruited prior to the notification of the Rules. To rectify this an Initial Constitution Clause was incorporated in the Recruitment Rules in 1980. Appointments to the grade of Executive Engineer(C) were then regularised under the JCC in 1985. Promotion to SE (C) from EE (C) could be taken up only thereafter.

For years 1988 to 1992 reasons are given under paras (d) & (e).

(d) and (e) No DPC was held during the years 1988. 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 (till date). No vacancies were available in 1988 and 1989. Hence, no DPC was due. Reasons for not holding the DPCs in 1990 and 1991 are due to the non-availability of a stable Seniority List in the feeder grade of EE (C). The feeder grade of EE (C) is drawn from two streams *viz.* AEE (C) & AE (C) in the ratio of 2 : 1. There is a dispute in the stream of AE (C) among promotees *vis-a-vis* direct recruits. Court cases in various Benches of CAT are still pending. Hence, the final Seniority List could not be drawn up so far in the grade of AE (C).

(f) and (g) Reservatisn orders are not applicable in promotions from Executive Engineer (C) to SE (C) as per Government of India instructions.

Telephone Exchanges in the Country

1718. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of telephone exchanges in the country, till date ; and

(b) what are the plans for increasing these during the next two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) There are total 16070 telephone exchanges (equipped capacity of 67.82 lakh) working in the country as on 31-3-1992.